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The Research Information Service of the National Research Council

By ROBERT M. YERKES,

Chairman and Resident Director of the Service.

Dr. Yerkes has been asked by SPECIAL LIBRARIES to tell the following story so that special librarians may obtain a more definite idea of the scope and character of the National Research Council's Research Information Service. This is a step in the direction of closer cooperation between the National Research Council and the Special Libraries Association, which relationship has already been provided for as outlined on another page of this issue, under the heading "Cooperation with the National Research Council." All special librarians are urged to keep the Research Information Service continually in mind, with the view of promoting the best interests of both organizations.

While acting during the war as the scientific division of the Council of National Defense the National Research Council organized an informational service. This service established offices in Washington, London, Paris and Rome. For many months it assembled scientific information in the several centers and distributed it to appropriate divisions or offices of the army and navy of the United States, and to other scientific and technical bureaus of the government.

Following the war it was decided to perpetuate the information service as a national clearing-house and informational bureau for scientific and industrial research. In one of the early announcements of the bureau its purpose was described as follows:

The service seeks to promote research by supplying individuals or institutions with such information concerning research projects, equipment, methods, problems or results as will encourage co-operation, lessen duplication, increase support, permit the exchange of reports concerning progress in related investigations and render possible increasingly satisfactory distribution of research effort and greater wisdom in the choice of problems.

The Research Information Service was organized on a permanent basis in 1919. During the two years of its existence its work has grown rapidly in variety and amount. It has been definitely recognized from the first by the members of the National Research Council that the informational bureau should be a non-profit-making, co-operative service organization for the scientists of the country and for those who are engaged in technological applications of scientific discoveries.

Conspicuous among the activities which have developed in the Service is the handling of miscellaneous requests, many hun-

dreds of which have been received by the Research Council and responded to by the Information Service.

Although answering miscellaneous requests is an important function, the bureau is able to further the interests of science and technology even more effectively by compiling essential information for publication than by accumulating it in office files, or by supplying it to some individual who happens to desire and request it. Therefore, from time to time, the staff undertakes to compile all available information on an important subject and to issue it in the form of a bulletin. The following are examples of informational compilation and publication:

- Research laboratories in industrial establishments in the United States of America.
- List of periodical bibliographies and abstracts for the scientific and technological journals of the world.
- Doctorates conferred in the sciences in 1920 by American universities.
- Funds available in the United States of America for the encouragement of scientific research.
- A list of seismological stations of the world.

The information Service will endeavor to maintain in its offices complete files on these subjects, and it will issue from time to time, as demand and its resources seem to justify, revisions of the more important informational compilations. At the present moment, with the co-operation of certain of the divisions of science and technology of the National Research Council, the Service is preparing a list of available published and unpublished bibliographies in the principal physical and biological sciences.

Since it is proposed to maintain the bureau primarily as a clearing-house instead of as a store-house of information, it has been found necessary to develop certain fundamental informational indexes and files.

The more important of these are listed below with a brief description of each.

As a means of locating information which is available in printed form, a library of sources is being developed as one of the principal tools of the Service. This will be a highly specialized collection limited ordinarily to bibliographies, abstracts, digests and other types of source-book and catalogue which are useful in getting a start on a subject. It will not be a library in the ordinary sense, but merely an informational mechanism by means of which the staff of the Service can readily find out what has been published on a given topic.

It is hoped that the library of sources may ultimately contain a reasonably complete and reliable list of important published and unpublished bibliographies in the natural and biological sciences and in the principal branches of technology. The Service will endeavor to supply copies of such bibliographies, as far as possible, as they are desired.

To supplement the library of sources the Service has begun to develop a catalogue of current investigations which it is believed will prove increasingly valuable as an aid in acquainting investigators with closely related projects and in lessening undesirable duplication or repetition of work. This current research catalogue is difficult to maintain, and it is entirely improbable that it will ever be complete, but it has already proved so useful that the Service is amply justified in attempting to perfect it.

To answer the question, where are certain lines of work carried on, or what places are satisfactorily equipped for a particular kind of work, a catalogue of research laboratories has been developed. Concerning each of several hundred industrial, academic, independent and governmental research establishments certain important information is available in this catalogue. It is rapidly being perfected through correction and supplementation and is serviceable in answering many varieties of miscellaneous request, and in meeting certain needs of the other divisions of the National Research Council.

Oddly enough, a catalogue which originally was undertaken with certain misgivings, now promises to become first among the fundamental mechanisms of the Service. It is the catalogue of scientists or of those who are qualified by training and experience, for research. Concerning each of more than 12,000 individuals, this personnel file now contains essential facts. The information is being verified, corrected and supplemented constantly and the file is now in process of being mechanized by the use of the Findex system. It is definitely planned to make this scientific personnel file the most thorough-going, reliable and useful list in the United States. It will be used, by means of the Findex, as a convenient

and economic source of information about individuals, activities of scientific establishments and work which is in progress.

Attention should be especially invited to a feature of the Service which, although at present inconspicuous, promises to become of prime importance, namely a general file which has been designated as a list of informational sources. In this file it is proposed to enter, as it becomes available, information about the individuals, laboratories, libraries, informational bureaus, publications, societies and every other type of agency or institution which may be considered a reliable and authoritative source for some particular kind of scientific information. From day to day the experience of the Information Service in attempting to cooperate with or use these sources will be recorded on their appropriate cards. In a few years the file of sources in the Research Information Service of the National Research Council should be invaluable.

There are numerous other informational files and lists which are useful to the service but they are all of minor importance as compared with the library of sources, the current investigation file, the research laboratory file, the scientific personnel list and the list of informational sources.

As a matter of course a complete record is kept of every informational request handled by the Service. This record in effect becomes a part of the catalogue of sources because it contains a complete, though brief, statement of the history of a request and therefore indicates the sources utilized.

Even from the beginning of the Information Service it has been the intention of the National Research Council to develop an informational clearing-house which should, as far as possible, utilize instead of duplicate, the activities of other informational agencies and co-operate as effectively as possible with them. The Service is entirely non-commercial and non-competing. There are vastly more important informational tasks within its restricted field than it can undertake. It, therefore, welcomes the organization of other, and particularly of specialized, informational agencies and endeavors to further their work while at the same time benefiting by it.

There can be no doubt that there should be intimate cooperative relations between the Research Information Service and the special, as well as the general, libraries of the country. The library is a special sort of informational source; the Research Council's Informational Service by contrast is a clearing-house which must utilize the library as one of its many essential sources of information.

It has been stated that the Service is strictly non-commercial. This does not

mean that all requests can be met without charge, but instead that profit from service is not sought. Whenever it is at all within reason, requests are answered without charge, but when this is impossible, a charge is made which covers the actual cost of service to the National Research Council. It is the opinion of the committee of scientists and engineers which has been responsible for the planning and development of the Information Service, that information which is supplied for the use of commercial agencies should be paid for, and that so far as possible, charges should be avoided in other cases.

One of the most important items of information about the Service is the fact that it has a competent staff of specialists in science and technology in addition to its clerical force. This staff is assisted in difficult special problems by the chairman and members of the several divisions of the Research Council. It is reasonable, therefore, to expect of it expert and reliable information instead of the sort which is supplied by a staff of clerks. It is a question of interest, intelligence, special knowledge and insight versus clerical routine and the mechanical following of certain rules of procedure.

References on Coal Contracts

BY JESSIE CALLAN



With no claim for exhaustiveness the compiler has here brought together some references of value on this "nationally advertised" subject. Miss Callan is connected with the library of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

COAL STABILIZATION ACT.

Introduced May 14, 1921, in U. S. Senate as S. 1807, by Sen. Frelinghuysen of N. J.

"(Section 4) That the Secretary [of Commerce] shall from time to time investigate (1) The tonnage of coal produced and tonnage of coal sold in commerce, including railway fuel; (2) The stocks of coal on hand in any section of the country or in such consuming territories or districts as may be outlined or designated by the Secretary and the consumption requirements in such section of consuming territories or districts; (3) The distribution of shipments of coal in commerce of any such section including the distribution of car; (4) The contract and prevailing market prices received or paid for coal by persons engaged or interested in the mining, sale, storage, or distribution of coal."

Full text of bill given in Coal Trade Journal. May 26, 1921. p. 601.

SAWARD

Coal Trade, Review of the Year, New York, 1876.

The plan for 1876 contained some new features. All sales were to be made for cash, or with 7 per cent interest added in case of deferred payment. No commissions were allowed in any form; but a contractors' circular was to be issued each month for all actual consumers who should make application before April 1 for a fixed amount of coal to be taken in regular monthly instalments, with prices

20 cents lower than the general circular rates. All contracts made with such applicants were subject to the approval of the Board of Control. But the most significant feature of the new agreement is seen in the provision that, in case the board found an excess of shipments, the "interest" thus exceeding its quota should "pay to the secretary and treasurer the sum of one dollar and fifty cents for each ton of such excess, for distribution at the rate of one dollar and fifty cents per ton amongst those who have fallen short of the amount due to them in said month."

VIRTUE, (G. O.)

Anthracite Combinations reprinted from the Quarterly Journal of Economics, April, 1896, p. 8-10.

With the Reading in virtual control of the southern field, and with the strong, capable leadership furnished by its president, Franklin B. Gowen, many of the difficulties in the way of union were removed. As early as midsummer of 1872 it began to be rumored that a combination of anthracite interests was to be formed. But it was not until January of the next year that the long looked-for action was taken.

The terms of the agreement of 1873 were not elaborate. The plan was to control the amount shipped to competitive points—that is, to tide-water points—and the price at which it should sell. There was assumed to be a demand for a certain number of tons at such points,

and it was divided among the companies according to the capacity of the mines whose product was shipped over their lines. A schedule of tide prices was fixed upon, with the understanding that they were to be advanced from time to time during the year. A committee of six—always during these early years the presidents of the railroad companies—was empowered to make changes in the prices, and, if found necessary, in the amount to be shipped to tide.

This was the general plan of the agreements for the next three years; but, as experience showed the need of changes, they were made, in the details from year to year. Thus it was found that the privilege of making season prices was taken advantage of, both by making them much lower than the monthly schedule prices and by allowing commissions on such sales. In 1874 various changes were made. It was provided that season prices were not to be more than 30 cents below the average monthly prices for the year, no commissions were allowed upon them, and for stove and egg sizes contracts would be made only with consumers. The commission on sales at circular prices was limited to 15 cents per ton. Yearly contracts had to be made in writing and approved by the Board of Control (as the committee of presidents came to be called); and all questions of drawbacks for impurities in coal or short weights, and all transactions on the sales and tonnage books of the companies, were made subject to their examination.

These new provisions for 1874 indicate some of the difficulties the combination has to meet. For 1875 a few more changes were made. The system of yearly contracts was wholly discontinued; the auction sales of the Lackawanna Co., long a source of irritation to other producers, were to be stopped; and the commission of 15 cents on sales amounting to 25,000 tons was made a commission of from 2 to 3 per cent, according to the amount of the sale.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Report on anthracite and bituminous coal, 1917. p. 416-417.

In connection with its inquiry into conditions of production and distribution of bituminous coal, made pursuant to congressional resolution directing such inquiry, the Federal Trade Commission required the coal operators to furnish it with the information called for on accompanying question sheets. Questions No. 6, 7, 8, 10 and 14 bear on contracts.

— Same (House doc 152, 65th Cong., 1st Sess., Sen. doc. 50, 65th Cong., 1st Sess.)

— Same. p. 412.

"One of the important results of this shifting of markets was a buyers' panic, due to the uncertainty of consumers with regard to getting coal from their regular sources of supply. This led in many cases to a frantic bidding of buyers against each other for that proportion of the coal supply (usually known as 'spot' or 'free' coal) which the mine operators were able to produce and ship in addition to the part of their output sold under contract. The proportion of 'free' to 'contract' coal has varied widely between different fields and mines, but the usual estimates are that from 70 to 90 per cent of the bituminous coal mined is usually sold under contract."

— Same, p. 127.

"The larger class of jobbers is made up

of those who purchase anthracite outright and sell at the market prices—in other words, speculators; these are jobbers proper. The other class comprises those whose chief sources of anthracite are independent producing companies for which they are sales agents. These are, properly speaking, commission men. Though both speculative jobbers and sales agents normally sell a large proportion of their coal on a spot basis, they also do a considerable business on a contract, agreeing to furnish to customers specified tonnages each month at a fixed price, or taking care of their needs without contract at reasonable prices in order to build up a regular trade."

— Same, p. 53.

"The greater number of independent producing companies, however, market their coal through jobbers on a commission basis. Generally the independent producing companies which contract with selling agencies and jobbers to market their entire production on a commission basis, require that the coal be sold at the best market price while the selling agency or the jobber is to receive a stated sum per ton, usually 15 cents on prepared sizes and 10 cents on steam sizes. . . . A few independent producers do not contract with sales agencies or jobbers for the marketing of their coal, but sell outright to various jobbers and retailers."

— Same, p. 18.

The Commission, in making its recommendations to the Senate after its coal investigations, states; "The prices are not only raised to meet present unheard-of fuel prices, but in contracts for future delivery a factor of safety is put in to cover further expected speculative increases in fuel prices." "The Commission has been appealed to by state institutions whose custom it is to make contracts for the winter's fuel in the early summer. Some report that they can not even secure bids at this time. Wise provision for the wards of the states is impossible."

KENYON BILL, S. 2557, 67TH CONGRESS

"Federal Coal Act."

Sen. Kenyon, chairman of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, on October 8, 1921, introduced "A bill to promote the general welfare by gathering information respecting the ownership, production, distribution, costs, sales, and profits in the coal industry and by publication of same, and to recognize and declare coal and its production and distribution charged with public interest and use, and for other purposes."

Sections 4 and 13 relate to coal contracting. Full text of bill is printed in "The Retail Coalman" for October, 1921, p. 55-58

MORROW, (J. D. A.) Vice President National Coal Assn.

"In the examination of witnesses before your Committee (I e., Sen. Committee on coal reconstruction and Production on S. 350, 66th Congress) the charge was entertained and given wide publicity that Order No. 10, issued for the purpose of increasing coal shipments to the northwestern states, and that Service Order No. 11, issued to increase the coal movements to New England, were really designed to effect the cancellation and abrogation of coal contracts and did result in such cancellation and a consequent marked increase in the price of coal. The evidence in our own records shows con-

clusively that our recommendation of these two service orders was conditioned upon an immediate increase in car supply to the coal mines sufficient to enable the mine operators to ship 5,000,000 additional tons of bituminous coal monthly, and that these service orders were designed and intended simply to direct the flow of that increased output which accordingly would not have interfered in any manner with the deliveries which contract customers were already obtaining upon their contracts. Moreover, there was never at any time any intention to have these orders cancel or abrogate contracts nor did they have that effect. . . . It has also been charged that the Northwest had contracted for 14,000,000 tons of soft coal last spring at \$3.50 per ton or less, and that the effect of Service Order No. 10 was to cancel those contracts and to permit the shipment of that tonnage at high spot market prices. We have irrefutable evidence to prove that the Northwest never had 14,000,000 tons of coal under contract last spring at \$3.50 per ton nor at any other price nor anything like the tonnage named." (Commercial and Financial Chronicle, Jan. 22, 1921, p. 329.)

SMITH (GEORGE OTIS) Director U. S. Geological Survey.

This rigid and unyielding demand is, in times of shortage, concentrated upon a limited part of the total output, namely, that portion available for spot delivery known as "free" coal. At any one time the bulk of the coal shipped is under contract and only a fraction of it is available to meet the spot demand. Nobody knows just what part of the whole the spot sales ordinarily constitute, but over the country as a whole they seldom exceed one-fourth of the total. Now, in times of shortage, this margin between the total production and the contract coal, which is free to satisfy the spot demand, is greatly restricted. At the same time the number of consumers desiring to purchase spot coal increases, for the very fact of the shortage usually means curtailment or production, and the operators are therefore unable to meet the quotas called for by their contracts. The consumer who fancies himself protected by his contract may find suddenly that to supplement his dwindling receipts he must enter the spot market. This brings about a condition in which the rigid and unyielding demand for coal, sharpened and pointed by scarcity, is concentrated upon a narrow margin of free coal. When that happens the price is likely to rise in spectacular fashion. Letter to Senator Walter E. Edge, Pub. by the National Coal Association, 1921, p. 6.)

Short-time Contracts.

GREGORY VS. HARLAN HOME COAL CO.

"A contract purporting to grant an exclusive local agency for the sale of coal for a longer period than a year is unenforceable unless evidence by at least some memorandum of the agreement in writing, signed by the party to be charged under the agreement. And where there is a valid contract of this kind, the agent is not entitled, on breach of the agreement, to recover damages as for loss of profits or merchandise he might have sold from his store to employees who would have been employed to deliver coal under the agency contract. Such damages are too uncertain and speculative in their nature to be subject of an award." (Ky. Court of Appeals, 206 Southwestern Rep., 765.)

MORROW (J. D. A.), Vice President National Coal Assn.

"About 80 per cent of coal buyers

(meaning large buyers) buy their coal by the year and the rest of them take a chance on it." (Hearing before U. S. Senate Committee on Manufactures, 65th Cong., on S. 4828, p. 153.)

McALLISTER (FRANK W.) Attorney Gen. of Missouri.

"We discovered quite a number of contracts with local dealers of this kind. A contract for so many cars of coal during the year, say, 200, 250, 300, starting in the month of May, 1917, at \$2.75 a ton. . . ; so many cars in the month of June at \$3, etc. We discovered quite a number of these contracts with local dealers." (Hearing before U. S. Senate Committee on Manufactures, 65th Cong., S. R. 165, p. 55, 249.)

NELSON CREEK COAL CO. VS. WEST POINT BRICK AND LUMBER CO.

"Where a contract bound a coal company to supply fuel required by a coal company to supply fuel required by a brick company during 'The remainder of the brick making season, say from this date to April 1, 1916,' at a given price, the brick company was not entitled to require delivery after April 1. . . . The giving of April 1 as the date of the termination of the contract was not a mere approximation of the time it should end, but an absolute limit, beyond which it could not extend, so, in our opinion, the contract did not require appellant to furnish appellee any coal after that date, although the brick-making season may not, in fact, then have ended."

Ky. Court of Appeals, 152 Southwestern Rep. 909. Cited in Street, A. L. H. Legal decisions affecting coal and coke, p. 57.

PEABODY (F. S.), President Peabody Coal Co.

Speaking of contracts, witness stated that he had large contracts for the period of 20 years and that he sold coal to the consumer on yearly contracts. (Hearing before U. S. Senate Committee on Manufactures 65th Cong. on S. R. 165, p. 546.)

SAWARD.

The Coal Trade Review for 1916, p. 10.

"It is, however, one of the unfortunate conditions of this branch of the fuel industry that sales arrangements must necessarily (it is said) be made early in the year so that operators may be assured of something fixed and reliable in the way of business. . . . A very large percentage of the business is always done on contract and what is termed 'free coal' makes a very small figure in the total production at most of the mines sending coal to tidewater or for distribution to the middle and eastern states."

U. S. FUEL ADMINISTRATION.

"The United States Fuel Administrator . . . [Dec. 24, 1917] hereby orders and directs . . . that the following regulations are established relative to contracts for the sales of coal. (1) No such contract shall provide for the delivery or supply of coal or coke over a period longer than one year; and such period of one year shall terminate at a date not more than eighteen months from the date of actual execution of the contract." (Hearings before U. S. Senate Subcommittee of the Committee on Manufactures, 65th Cong., on S. R. 163, p. 249.)

Regulations of the U. S. Fuel Administration concerning contracts are also found in "Fuel Manual" compiled and issued by the National Coal Association, 1918, p. 61.

Oral Contracts

U. S. FUEL ADMINISTRATION.

"Oral contracts for the delivery or sup-

ply of coal or coke will in no case be recognized by the Fuel Administrator as valid or binding upon either party thereto and are hereby prohibited."

(Fuel Manual compiled and issued by the National Coal Association, 1918. p. 65.)

65% Contracts.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.

Report on anthracite and bituminous Coal. p. 14-15. House doc. 193, Sen. doc. 50, 65th Cong. 1st Sess. 1917.

"When formerly the railroad coal companies under the perpetual '65 per cent contracts' purchased the total output of mines, the coal so purchased was sold at circular, but these contracts having been abrogated by the Supreme Court as in restraint of trade, the coal from these independent mines has often been sold by its producers at high premiums in the recent crisis. In the last four months of 1916 coal purchased by the railroad coal companies from independents under short-time contracts fell off about 300,000 tons, or 38 per cent."

The decision of the U. S. Supreme Court referred to above is found in U. S. Supreme Court Reports 226, p. 324-374. U. S. vs. Reading Co. "The decree of the court below is affirmed as to the Temple Iron Company combination. It is reversed as to the 65 per cent contracts, and the case will be remanded with direction to enter a decree cancelling each of these contracts, and perpetually enjoining their further execution, and for such proceedings as are in conformity with this opinion."

Same, p. 50.

"During the period prior to 1912 a large number of independents had been selling their output to the railroad coal companies under perpetual 65 per cent contracts. In brief, these contracts provided, as to prepared sizes, that the operator should sell his coal f. o. b. the mine to the railroad coal company, and should receive therefore 65 per cent of average price at which the prepared sizes (from the same trade region) sold f. o. b. tide points at or near New York Harbor. A lower per cent applied in the case of pea and smaller sizes. Contracts of this character covered, in 1912, nearly one half the tonnage produced by all the independents taken together.

In 1912 the U. S. Supreme Court directed the canceling of these contracts, holding that 'they were designed by the anthracite carriers as a means of controlling the sale of the independent out-put in the market at tide water points, thereby preventing competition with their own coal and as a plan for removing the great tonnage controlled by the independents from being used as an inducement for the entry of competing carriers into the district.' [Reading Case, U. S. 226.] In accordance with the court decrees these contracts, with a few permitted exceptions, had all been abrogated by the middle of 1913.

As a result of the above decrees the tonnage purchased by the anthracite railroads from the independents fell off materially. Some independent operators, however, continued to dispose of their output to the railroad coal companies on the basis of 65 per cent of the tidewater prices on agreements terminable by either party on short notice. By this arrangement, it is pointed out, they are free, on short notice, to market their own coal in case it becomes to their advantage to do so, instead of being perpetually bound as before."

JONES

Anthracite coal combination in the U. S., pp. 88-93.

"The most important provisions of the 65 per cent contracts are (in substance and condensed form):

1. The seller sells and agrees to deliver on cars at the breaker to the buyer all the anthracite coal hereafter mined from any of its mines now opened and operated, on the premises intended to be covered by this contract, and any which shall be claimed from culm banks on said premises.

2. Shipments to be made from time to time as called for by the buyer. The buyer to give, on the 25th day of each month, notice of the quantity as nearly as practicable, buyer will require for the next month, and arrange to take the coal in as nearly equal daily or weekly quantities as in its judgment the requirements of the market will permit. The buyer to use its best efforts to find a market for the sellers' coal so as to enable the sellers' collieries to be worked as many days as practicable, with due regard to the general market conditions, and to give orders for shipment which will enable the seller to work its collieries as many days in each year as other collieries similarly situated work.

3. The buyer agrees that it will not discriminate in favor of its own mines, or any persons, firms or companies with which it has contracts to buy coal, but that the quantity to be ordered monthly shall be a just proportion of the entire quantity to be ordered monthly shall be a just proportion of the entire quantity of coal agreed to be purchased by the buyer, measured by the colliery capacity of the respective sellers. The colliery capacity shall be determined as of the first of Jan. in each year by the parties hereto, and, on their failure to agree, the president for the time being of Girard Trust Co., shall elect a suitable expert for this purpose.

4. The buyer agrees to pay and the seller agrees to accept the following prices for said coal, when delivered f. o. b. railroad cars at the breaker: For all sizes above pea coal, 65 per cent of the general average free on board prices of said sizes (from the same trade region) received at tide points at or near New York, between North Amboy and Edgewater, computed as hereinafter provided.

5. The general average f. o. b. prices herein referred to shall be determined by a disinterested expert accountant satisfactory to both parties, to whom the buyer shall furnish not later than the eighth of each month a statement of the quantity of each size sold during the preceding month and the amount realized therefor by the buyer at tide on all sales of each size of coal from the region covered by the contract, etc.

6. If any default shall be made by the buyer in any payment the seller may, at its option, declare this contract forfeited by giving notice of such default for a period of at least five days, and of its intention to terminate this contract, unless payment shall be made in the meantime.

7. The seller will consign and manifest said coal to such points and parties as the buyer shall from time to time direct, and will furnish and send to the buyer such copies of manifests and such notice relating to coal shipped as the buyer may direct.

8. In the event of any disagreement as to the quantity to be ordered, or the actual price of coal at tide, or on any

other question to be decided under the terms hereof by arbitration, it shall be determined by a Board to be known as the Permanent Board of Arbitration, which shall consist of three persons: one person selected by the Seller, the President of the Buyer Co. to be the second person; and the president for the time being of Girard Trust Co. to be the third person.

9. If by reason of changes in trade or colliery conditions the seller is unable to operate its mines without financial loss on the basis of this contract, and the buyer declines to modify this agreement, the seller may submit the questions involved to the said Board of Arbitration, and if the Board decides that the seller cannot operate its mines without loss on the basis of this contract, and if the buyer and seller cannot agree on a modification of this contract, then this contract shall cease.

10. It is also agreed that if at any time the average f. o. b. price at tide-water for sizes of coal larger than pea shall be less than \$350 per ton, then the seller may at its option temporarily suspend mining and cease all deliveries hereunder until provided, however, that two weeks' notice of intention to stop deliveries shall in such case be given by the seller to the buyer.

This is typical of the 65 per cent contracts, made between the Hillside Coal and Iron Co. and Lackawanna Coal Co. From the Files of Interstate Commerce Commission in the Hearst Case, Exhibit No. 121. See also 65 per cent contract, Industrial Commission IX p 505-507.

LAUCK (JETT)

Combination in the anthracite industry, p. 49.

"The new 65 per cent contracts with which the twentieth century started and which have since been declared illegal contained provisions, (1) that the independent operator must sell to the railroad company his entire output of coal for the life of his mines, and, (2) making it possible for the railroad to restrict the production of independent operators when it was necessary to maintain prices. Such contracts were signed by the Lehigh Coal Co., with eleven operators producing over 3,000,000 tons."

(Ib., p. 3)

In No. 3 of his analytical summary Mr. Lauck states, "Before the end of the nineteenth century the railroad companies, either operating directly or through their coal companies, had come into the ownership of over 90 per cent of the unmined coal. If we add the amount controlled by contract, the percentage of unmined coal free from the control of the railroad companies amounted to less than 4 per cent."

SHERMAN ANTI-TRUST CASE VI.

Transcript of Record. Temple Iron Co. No. 7, p. 30-32.

"The contracts in the early eighties, running for varied terms, had netted the individual operator from 40 to 45 per cent of the tide-water price. . . The percentage contract system was not at this time, however, the customary mode of marketing the independent output. Its introduction as a general system was in considerable measure due to the influence of Mr. McLeod, President of the Reading Railroad. . . The Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Co. had contracted in 1892 to buy the output of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. and of the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Coal Co., controlled by the Lehigh Valley Railroad and the

Central of New Jersey respectively. It paid therefor 60 per cent of the average f. o. b. prices at tide-water.

. . . The individual operators, before making any concessions appointed a commission in October, 1900, to confer with the presidents of the transportation companies. . . A large number of the operators present at the meeting signed the resolution endowing the commission with full power to agree upon a contract form. This commission met with a commission of the transportation companies, consisting of representatives of the Reading, the Central of New Jersey, the Lehigh Valley, the Lackawanna, and the Erie, and they agreed upon a form of contract.

U. S. VS. DELAWARE, LACKAWANNA AND WESTERN RAILROAD CO. AND THE DELAWARE, LACKAWANNA AND WESTERN COAL CO. BRIEF FOR THE U. S. pp. 10-12.

On Aug. 2, 1909, this contract was executed by the officers of both Companies [Delaware, Lackawanna and Western R. R. Co. and the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Coal Co.] (Rec. 6) It is reproduced in the Record (p. 364-372) and in substance provided as follows:

(1) The Railroad Co. agreed to sell to the Coal Co. all mined, marketable coal then owned by it (except what it might need for its own use as a common carrier), to be paid for within 30 days at prices designated. (Rec., 365)

(2) The Railroad Co. agreed to lease to the Coal Co. its welling facilities, . . . for an annual rental of 5 per cent of their agreed value (Rec., 366); and the Coal Co. agreed to take over certain leases of trestles, sales agency contracts and contracts for the sale of coal theretofore made and contracts for the sale of coal theretofore made by the Railroad Co. (Rec., 367-368)

(3) The Railroad Co. agreed to sell and deliver to the Coal Co., f. o. b. cars at the mines, all coal thereafter mined or purchased by the former (except what it may need for its own use as a common carrier, or it may sell to its own employees at the breakers), the amount so sold and delivered, however, to be 'at the absolute option of the seller [the Railroad Co.] as its interests may determine, and the seller shall be subject to no liability whatsoever for failure to supply the buyer [the Coal Co.] with such amount of coal as it may desire.' (Rec. 368.)

(4) The Coal Co. agreed to purchase all such coal offered by the Railroad Co. (Rec. 368); and to pay for all sizes above pea, 65 per cent of the general average f. o. b. prices at New York Harbor. (Rec., 369, 370)

(5) To Coal Co. agreed that the coal might be prepared 'in accordance with the past practices and standards' of the Railroad Co. (Rec., 370)

(6) The Coal Co. agreed that 'it will purchase all coal to be sold by it from the seller [the Railroad Co.], and will purchase no coal from any other person or corporation except with the written consent of the seller,' reserving only the right to purchase from others the coal necessary to fill certain existing contracts in the event of the failure of the Railroad Co. to sell to it. (Rec., 368)

(7) The Coal Co. agreed to conduct the business so as best to conserve the interests of and preserve the good will and markets of the coal mined by the seller [the Railroad Co.] (Rec., 370)

(8) The Coal Co. agreed 'to continue to fill the orders of all responsible present customers of the sellers [the Railroad Co.], even though as to some of such

customers the sales may be unprofitable.' (Rec., 370)

(9) Any disputes arising between the parties shall be settled by arbitration, and if warranted by changes in conditions, the terms of the agreement itself may be modified by arbitration. (Rec., 370, 371)

(10) The term of the contract is indefinite. Either party may cancel it, however, by giving six months' notice. (Rec., 371)

(11) The Coal Co. agreed that in the event of the ending of the contract, it will sell back to the Railroad Co. or its nominees, at prices to be agreed upon, all coal then stored or in transit purchased from the Railroad Co. by the Coal Co. (Rec. 371.)

— Same, pp. 37-38

"The Co. agrees to sell to the Coal Co., all coal mined and purchased by it except what it may use in its business as a common carrier. The Coal Co. is bound to accept whatever quantity of coal the Railroad Co. may see fit to mine or purchase and deliver."

It is impossible to conceive of a contract which would more completely destroy the free agency of a trader. It clearly belongs, therefore, to the class of contracts described by the Court in the Standard Oil Co.'s Case as "in restraint of trade in the subjective sense"—that is, contract by which one voluntarily and

unreasonably restrains his right to carry on his trade or business.' (221 U. S., 1, 56, 59.) Likewise it falls within Mr. Justice Holmes's strict definition of contracts in restraint of trade;

"They are contracts with a stranger to the contractors' business (although in some cases carrying on a similar one) which wholly or partially restrict the freedom of the contractor in carrying on that business as otherwise he would." Northwestern Securities Co. vs. U. S., 193 U. S., 197, 404.

— Same, p. 42.

Conclusion: "The decree of the District Court should be reversed with directions that there be entered a decree . . . (3) adjudging that the contract of Aug. 2, 1909, between the Railroad Co. and the Coal Co. unlawfully restrains interstate trade and commerce, and enjoining its further performance by either party."

Nov. 1914

(Brief for the U. S., No. 517, p. 42. U. S. vs. Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Co. and the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Coal Co.)

Uniform Contracts.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FUEL COMMITTEE PURCHASING AGENTS.

At a meeting in New York City on March 15, 1921, the Committee drew up a form for a uniform coal contract. The blank form for this agreement is given in Paper for April 13, 1921, p. 31.

Government Services Department

CONDUCTED BY CHARLOTTE CARMODY
Library, U. S. Department of Commerce.



This Department was inaugurated in April, 1921. A careful study of the detail of these services will disclose the great variety of information they comprise on specific points, to discover which much time is often spent in wearying searches. The services here described are intended for immediate and temporary use.

ABBREVIATIONS

bal.=balance
comp.=compiled
cons.=consumer,-sump
tion,-suming
cor.=corresponding
cur.=current
est.=estimated
exp.=exports

imp.=imports
mo.=monthly
prec.=preceding
prev.=previous
prod.=producer, -duc
tion
Q., q.=quarterly
rept.=report

Titles will not be repeated unless a change of title or contents occurs, in which event a new entry will be made.

Preceding notices have been issued in SPECIAL LIBRARIES as follows:

Cheese. June.
Cotton ginning. Apr.
Cottonseed. June.
Internal Commerce. May.
Marketing. Apr.
Merchant Shipping. May.
Milk. June.

Newsprint. June.
Paper Industry. Apr.
Railroads. May.
Tobacco. Apr.
Transportation. May.
Wall Paper. Apr.
Wool Machinery. Apr.

DAIRY PRODUCTS AND POULTRY.
Daily Market Report (butter, cheese, eggs, and dressed poultry). (U. S. Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates.)

History of Service:

Began in February, 1918. Issued daily from New York, Chicago, Boston, Phila.,

Washington, Minneapolis and San Francisco. Succeeded the four following reports: "Daily butter market report," "Daily cheese market report," "Daily dressed poultry market report," and "Daily egg market report," mimeographed.

Scope of Service:

Summary of market conditions, receipts

and storage movement, and wholesale prices. Prices for butter are for creamery (fresh and storage) in the N. Y., Chicago, Phila. and Boston markets. Prices for cheese are for No. 1 American, fresh and held, resp. each in 7 styles, in N. Y., Chicago, Phila. and Boston markets, and at Wisconsin primary markets, f. o. b. shipping point in seven styles. Movement of Butter: Receipts (tubs) daily, prev. week, cor. week prev. year, and total for prec. and cur. year to date in N. Y., Chicago, Phila., and Boston. Cold storage holding (lbs.) cur. and prec. year, daily amt. stored and taken out of storage in N. Y., Chicago, Phila. and Boston. Movements of Cheese: Receipts by cities (lbs.) daily, prev. week, cor. week prec. year, total amt. from first of prec. and cur. year to date in New York, Chicago, Phila., and Boston. Cold storage holdings on hand (lbs.) cur. and prec. year. Daily amt. stored and taken out of storage in N. Y., Chicago, Phila., and Boston. Movement of eggs: Receipts by cities (cases) daily, prev. week, cor. week prec. year, total amt. for prec. and cur. year to date, in N. Y., Chicago, Phila., and Boston. Cold storage holdings on hand (cases) prec. and cur. year. Daily amt. stored and taken out of storage in N. Y., Chicago, Phila., and Boston. Movement of Dressed Poultry: Receipts by cities (lbs.) daily, prev. week, cor. week prec. year, total amt. for prec. and cur. year to date in N. Y., Chicago, Phila., and Boston. Cold storage holdings (lbs.) on hand cur. and prec. year. Daily amt. stored and taken out of storage in N. Y., Chicago, Phila., and Boston.

HONEY AND BEESWAX.

Semi-monthly Report on Honey (U. S. Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates).

History of Service:

Began June 15, 1917

Scope of Service:

Shows supplies of honey on the market, range of prices for different flavors and grades of comb and extracted honey and beeswax, reported from shipping points and markets. Shipping points comprise: California points, Intermountain region (Idaho and Utah) Middlewestern states, Central states, Northeastern section, and Southeastern section. Market repts. show stocks on hand, sales, and range of prices, reported from Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Denver, Minneapolis, Kansas City, New York, Phila., and St. Louis.

PEANUTS AND PEANUT OIL.

Weekly Report on Peanuts (U. S. Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates).

History of Service:

Micrographed report issued semi-wkly. from Nov., 1919, until Mch., 1920. Since that time it has been a wkly. service.

Scope of Service:

Local prices and conditions in Va.—No. Car sec., South-eastern U. S., South-western U. S., giving prices and sales by different varieties and grades of peanuts, shelled and unshelled, also peanut oil and peanut cakes. Telegraphic repts from 12 important markets: Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Detroit, Kansas City, Minneapolis, St. Paul, New York, Phila., Pittsburgh and St. Louis, giving arrivals of peanuts on the markets, prices and sales by grades and varieties. Shipments by sections: Va.—No. Car., incl. Tenn., Southeastern section, incl. Ala., Fla., Ga., and S. C.; Southwestern section, incl. Tex., and Okla., of peanuts, shelled and unshelled (lbs.) and peanut oil (lbs.) for the prev. wk. and the total amt. from the beginning of the season to date. Abstracts from U. S. consular repts. dealing with peanut situation in foreign countries. Imp. and exp. by U. S., for prev. mo. of peanuts, unshelled and shelled, peanut oil, soyabean oil, and cotton seed oil, by countries, showing quantity (lbs.) and value (dollars). Also amts. and value of imported peanuts and peanut oil remaining in warehouses for prec. mo.

TELEPHONE COMPANIES.

Summary of monthly reports of large telephone companies. Mo. (Interstate Commerce Commission).

Scope of Service:

Comp. subject to revision, from 68 repts. of revenues and expenses of telephone cos. having ann. operating revenues in excess of \$250,000. Revenues: Subscribers' stations, public pay stations, misc. exchange service, message tolls, misc. toll lines, sundry misc. revenues, license revenues. Expenses: Depreciation of plant and equipment, traffic expenses, commercial expenses, general and misc. expenses, uncollectible operating revenue operating income before deducting taxes, taxes assignable to operations, and operating income. These figures are for cur. mo., compared with cor. mo. of prev. yr., and cumulative.

Helen M. Johnstone, formerly with Haskin & Sells, Accountants, is now with the Library of the New York University School of Commerce, Wall Street Division.

* * * * *

Helen M. Stern, formerly with the Bush Terminal Library is now working with the Fleischmann Company.

* * * * *

Katharyn Doherty is Librarian of the Silk Association of America, formerly with the National Bank of Commerce.

* * * * *

Edith MacPhail has accepted a position with the Westinghouse Air Spring Co. at New Haven, Conn.

* * * * *

Eleanor Ethier is the new Librarian of the Citizens Union.

* * * * *

A new insurance library is being established in New York, the New York Compensation Inspection Rating Board, 370 Fifth Avenue.

Special Libraries

ADELAIDE R. HASSE, Editor

Office of Asst. Secy. of War.

Washington, D. C.

Associate Editors

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EDITORIAL 1921

Special Libraries of America are to be congratulated upon the progress of the year. Not only upon the progress but much more on the effect of that progress. Special Libraries are on the map—to stay there. They are recognized as necessary adjuncts by banks, public utility companies, commercial houses, manufacturing plants, by newspapers as well as by technical, scientific and civic institutions.

This is but the first advance. Stop here and all is lost. The great object upon which all our strength, our ability and our courage must be centered now is organization and production.

We have won recognition. We must now work to make good that recognition and to win for ourselves the same indispensable position in the world of affairs which our employers themselves have labored for and won.

Let the progress of 1921 not only be duplicated, but a hundredfolded the coming year.

Here's to 1922!!

Association Activities

SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

New Committees

Committees for the current year have been appointed as follows:

Publicity: Miss Margaret Reynolds, First Wisconsin National Bank, Milwaukee, Chairman.

Membership: Miss Dorothy Bemis, Federal Reserve Bank, Philadelphia, Chairman.

Employment: Miss Estelle L. Liebmann, The Ronald Press, 20 Vesey Street, New York City, Chairman.

Nominating: Mr. Richard H. Johnston, Bureau of Railway Economics, Washington, Chairman.

Cooperation with the Department of Commerce: Mr. H. H. B. Meyer, Library of Congress, Washington, Chairman.

Cooperation with the Department of Commerce

In a letter received prior to the Swampscott Convention, Mr. F. M. Feiker, Assistant to Secretary Hoover, wrote: "The libraries of the country have a special opportunity for service if they can devise ways and means of getting business men to read information that is available. The Special Libraries Association * * * has a wide opportunity for service in this particular. The Secretary of Commerce, Mr. Hoover, wishes to develop the Department and its functions so they can be of most help to industry * * * The Secretary would also welcome the appointment of a committee of the Special Libraries Association to act with the Department in an advisory capacity on many problems that may arise."

A temporary committee, composed, if we remember correctly, of Messrs. Lewis A. Armistead, Daniel N. Handy and Herbert O. Brigham, was appointed to gather suggestions at the Swampscott Convention. In its report to the President this committee advocated the appointment of a permanent committee on cooperation with the Department of Commerce. Such a Committee has recently been appointed with Mr. H. B. Meyer, Chief Bibliographer of the Library of Congress, as Chairman. Mr. Meyer has recently requested the following persons to serve upon this committee:

Charles C. Williamson
Samuel H. Ranck
John Cotton Dana
John A. Lapp
Louise B. Krause
Joseph L. Wheeler
Maud A. Carabin
Robert H. Whitten
Nelson W. McCombs
Ethel Cleland
Thomas P. Ayer

Frances S. Cox
R. A. Sawyer
Alice Rose
Daniel N. Handy
J. H. Friedel
Herbert O. Brigham
Edward H. Redstone
Lewis A. Armistead
H. Llewellyn Rainey
Milton J. Ferguson

Cooperation with the National Research Council

Several months ago a representative of the Special Libraries Association conferred with Dr. Vernon Kellogg, Director of the National Research Council, 1701 Massachusetts Ave., Washington, D. C., and with Dr. Robert M. Yerkes, Chairman of the Council's Research Information Service and Dr. Edwin E. Slosson, Editor of "Science Service." At this conference the matter of cooperation between the Special Libraries Association and the National Research Council was discussed and it was stated that recommendation would be made that a member of the Special Libraries Association be appointed to the Council. One result of this relationship has already been enjoyed by the members of the Association in the form of the intensely interesting address delivered at the Swampscott Convention by Dr. Edwin E. Slosson, entitled "The Missing Link Between Science and the Public," which was published in the last issue of SPECIAL LIBRARIES. Within the past few weeks a letter was received from Dr. Charles D. Walcott, President of the National Academy of Sciences, addressed to the President of the Special Libraries Association, which said in part: "In accordance with the recommendation of the Executive Board of the National Research Council, it gives me pleasure to appoint you a member of that Council on the Research Information Service for a period of three years."

Publicity Committee

Miss Margaret Reynolds, Librarian of the First Wisconsin National Bank, Milwaukee, Wis., has been appointed Chairman of the S. L. A. Publicity Committee and "The Milwaukee Sentinel" of November 22 calls attention to the fact under the heading "Milwaukee Woman is Honored by Librarians." Miss Reynolds is busily engaged in forming her committee and planning an intensive publicity campaign and she solicits the suggestions and close cooperation of every member of the Association.

Committee on Membership

Last year's membership campaign is by no means terminated and Miss Dorothy Bemis, recently appointed Librarian of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, has consented to lead this work for the coming year. The Association has made good progress towards the goal of a thousand members since the campaign was inaugurated but the efforts of every member will be needed to attain this quota before the next convention. If each member will bring in one new member we will not have to worry about the quota.

Committee on Employment

It was a great pleasure to the officers to be able to persuade Miss Estelle L. Liebmann to accept the Chairmanship of this Committee. Miss Liebmann, whose untiring efforts as Secretary are known to all members, asks the closest sort of cooperation from all members of the Association in reporting library positions that are vacant.

The Association's Advertising Group

Miss Mary Louise Alexander, Chairman of the S. L. A. Advertising Group, recently put into practice a clever idea for extending advertising interest in special libraries, recruiting new members, and selling the local association as well. In a letter to 153 New York advertising agencies she pointed out the advantages of library service to the advertising profession, called attention to the "Special Libraries Directory," explained the objects of the Association, urged membership therein and called attention to and urged attendance at the regular meeting of the New York Special Libraries Association. The letter concludes: "I hope that someone from your agency will plan to come (to N. Y. S. L. A. dinner). If they will either write or telephone me, I should be very happy to play hostess to new advertising members. In the meantime, won't you please fill out and return the application at the bottom of this sheet?"

Association Officers

A meeting of the S. L. A. Executive Board was held in the offices of the New York Municipal Reference Library on December 12. There have been frequent meetings of the Association officers located in Washington to discuss problems incident to SPECIAL LIBRARIES, the Directory, etc. Miss Evans, Miss Hasse, Mr. Hyde and Mr. Lindsay have taken part in these meetings. In this connection mention should be made of the removal of the publication office of SPECIAL LIBRARIES from New York to Washington and the complete re-arrangement of the typographical appearance of the magazine made possible through the intelligent cooperation of the Rufus H. Darby Printing Co of Washington, which firm also published the Directory. The publicity for the Directory was also handled by the central officers and about one hundred news stories were sent out to newspapers, trade magazines and other publications. The handling of Directory sales has also been a considerable task. A press book of publicity on the Swampscott Convention has been compiled and a similar book of Directory publicity is now in course of preparation.

NEW YORK S. L. A.

New York Special Libraries Association began its year's activities with a meeting on Friday, October 28, with an attendance of 131. No November meeting was held. At the December meeting Mr. Carl Snyder, manager of the Statistics Department of the Federal Reserve Bank, spoke on "The Source for Statistics in Business," and Mr. Selden O. Martin, Director of Research, of the American International Corporation, spoke on "Research in Business."

The Association held its second monthly meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 6th, at the Fairfax Restaurant, 80 Nassau St. One hundred and seventy people sat down to an excellent dinner and were put into good spirits for the program which followed. The members of each group, as Legal, Insurance, Financial, etc., were seated together so that they might become better acquainted during the course of the dinner.

Mr. Carl Snyder, Manager of the Statistical Department of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, gave us in his speech a comprehensive view of the development of a modern business and how each individual contributes his share to this important organization and how even a seemingly small bit of information secured by the Statistical Department or the Library may be the important fact on which hinges a great invention in modern industry or business.

Prof. David Friday, well-known economist, gave an inspiring, humorous and practical talk. He prophesied in what direction of business the demands would come within the next six months, year or two, and made practical suggestions concerning ways in which the special librarian can be of real value to her executive.

A social time really followed the dinner because so many of the librarians were eager for an opportunity to meet and talk with the speakers of the evening.

A Suggestion for This Year's Work.

Last spring an impetus was given in the New York Special Libraries Association meeting toward the old and hoary idea of a clearing house of information. Though the idea is old, it seldom has been brought to a point of development where it functions adequately; among the special libraries of New York City it certainly falls far short of the ideal.

However, the seed has been planted and if it is nourished we hope it may bloom by the coming spring. The New York Special Libraries Association is planning to work it out on a large scale cooperation. The whole Association has been divided into eighteen separate groups; for example, Accountancy, Advertising, Financial, Commercial, Insurance, Civic or Chemical. For each group one person has been appointed to act as leader. Each group will, during the course of the year, hold meetings and each time in a different library of that group; at this gathering that library will be thoroughly studied and discussed by all the librarians and the resources of it carefully written up, giving all the sidelights of all of the special librarians in this group on the library and its resources. When this same method has been pursued by all the groups and all the libraries covered, we have through this united effort brought together the real information for a clearing house.

We also hope to supplement this information on resources by incorporating with it, as it were, the idea of the sponsors of knowledge; by that, I mean, that in the course of this survey and study of the libraries in each group it will develop that one library is strong in one phase of a special subject. If so, the librarian could be made sponsor for that subject, and considered as the personal source for such information. In this way, each member of our Association should properly and could have a specialty and become an expert on that source material.

The success of the plan depends largely on the leadership of the group leaders, and also on the real cooperation of the individual members. All this effort will be headed up by the officers of the Association, and if the information is secured in written form, as anticipated, from the groups, it will be correlated, compiled and placed in files at a central place ready for actual use.

* The advantages of such an accomplishment are almost untold, but some of the apparent ones may be mentioned:

1. Each individual library will know its resources better
2. Each librarian will discover faults in his methods and suggestions for improvement
3. Each librarian will find work he is duplicating that is already done better by others, and his can be dispensed with
4. Service of each any every one increased a hundredfold by the knowledge of the resources of other libraries
5. Active cooperation, lending of material and readiness with which facts may be gotten will save much time and expense
6. Saving in the purchase of books because of the present durl

When the Association has reached this proposed stage in the acquisition of the information, we are then ready to go to the heads of our libraries, to the business men and present our definite plan of administering a Clearing House of Information for the Special Libraries of New York; we can show we have the information and are ready to begin business at once, and all we want are the finances with which to do it. I am convinced the business men are ready to back us in such an undertaking. The Committee which I appointed last spring are waiting on us; I get inquiries from such business men quite frequently asking what we have done, and I find it has been quite generally noised about in the business world that the New York Special Libraries Association is cooperating very closely now. But *we all* know it can be improved.

To recapitulate, so that I may be sure I am understood in my plan of action—if each is convinced of the splendid results of such a cooperative scheme as I am,—I feel sure he will do his share, which, after all, is comparatively little for the good which will result:—

1. Each group have a meeting at least once a month or more often, if necessary. In this way get around to all the libraries in your group during the year.
2. At each library, study the library, its resources particularly, by observation and use of pertinent questions.
3. The leader or one of the group write up a careful survey of the library.
4. At the end of the year (May, 1922) hand to the President of the Association all the information so accumulated.

In the case of the two groups, Financial and Commercial, in which there are so many libraries that it is impracticable to get around them all, I suggest some librarians be designated by the Executive Board to assist in this surveying of these libraries. I think we might secure the assistance of some of our good special librarians who have not a position at this time.

Along with this we should like to compile a union list of periodicals and annuals—could it not be done this way? Each Library may soon be making up her list of sub-

scriptions for 1922; while in the process, make a duplicate slip with name of the publication and stamp on it the name of the library. If written on p-slips this way, all could be accumulated easily and the union list printed at once.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA

Special Libraries Council of Philadelphia and vicinity held its first meeting of the 1921-22 season on October 28, 1921.

"The Library as a Business Asset," was the subject of an address by Mr. Henry P. Megargee of the American Railways Association. The following officers were elected: Chairman, Louise Keller, Librarian, Independence Bureau; Vice-Chairman, E. Mae Taylor, Librarian Philadelphia Electric Co.; Treasurer, Florence G. Humphreys, Librarian Corn Exchange National Bank; Secretary, Helen M. Rankin, Municipal Reference Division, Free Library of Philadelphia.

Special Library Field Doings

Grace Carstensen, librarian of the National Aniline and Chemical Co., writes in Chemical Markets of Nov. 23, on Chemical Libraries; making the chemical business library.

Louise E. Grant discussed "The Special Library, Local Industry and the Public Library" at the twenty-seventh annual conference of the Ohio Library Association, held at Antioch College, October 17-20, 1921.

Franklin and Richmond Sherwood, proprietors of a printing establishment in Bridgeport, Conn., sons of the late Franklin Sherwood, who was for many years editor of a weekly newspaper there, have presented to the Connecticut State Library, at Hartford, the bound files of Bridgeport newspapers dating back to the year 1840.

A. Linn Bostwick, who, until recently, was connected with the Research Department of the Simmons Hardware Co., of St. Louis, is now engaged as statistician for the Central Trust Co. The newly organized

department will centralize and standardize the work of collecting, compiling, analyzing and reducing to the simplest terms, information rarely utilized relating directly or indirectly to banking problems.

B. M. Headicar, Librarian of the London School of Economics, writes in *Economica* of October on Industrial and Commercial Libraries of the future. Mr. Headicar's article is well worth study. It is very suggestive. His statement, however, that copies of the trade directories issued by the U. S. Department of Commerce are not allowed to be sold outside of America is unfortunate. No such restrictions exist.

Envy is not a pleasant possession. The record of accomplishment of British special libraries as related in some papers in the November issue of the Library Association Record might inspire envy. The achievement of these "works libraries" is by no means in the talk stage, but they are most evidently delivering the goods.

The Data File

Public libraries whose librarians, editors or publicity managers have not seen "Just a Moment, Please," a very attractive poster issued by The Michigan Mutual Liability Co., Detroit, will do well to send for a copy. Librarians of insurance companies, too, will be interested. The poster is very suggestive of the possibilities of cooperation between public and special libraries.

The plan of the Hardware Dealers' Magazine to increase the business of manufacturers and jobbers by the installation of a trade catalogue file is interestingly described in Hardware Dealers' Magazine of August 21, p. 304 passim.

Periodicals, Indexes and Services on file

in Swift & Co. Library, Chicago, is the title, of a 31 leaf list recently issued. It is a subject list with an alphabetical title index.

The Department of Labor and Industries of the State of Washington has just issued a code of industrial insurance, medical aid and safety acts. 158 p.

Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration Library, Report of the Superintendent for 1919-1921, has recently been issued by Cecil A. Ross, the superintendent. The report, while distraught with the embarrassments of inadequate facilities, is in reality a record of such sturdy growth that twelve people are now unable to cope with work for which a few

years ago, three sufficed. Four hundred periodicals are currently received and the number of books charged at the delivery desks during the school year was more than 62,000.

Estelle L. Liebman, librarian of the Ronald Press Co., has prepared the index to vol. 1 of Administration. It is an author, title and subject index, and in workmanship a credit to the firm.

The Dry Goods Economist of November 19, 1921, is a seventy-fifth anniversary number. It contains much historical material, and is well worth examination for selection of material for the vertical files.

A volume of great interest to all school and civic librarians has just been issued by the British Board of Education, viz. "Humanism in the Continuation School," by J. Dover Wilson. The problem is not a new one, but has not previously, it is believed, been specially studied in the manner adopted by Mr. Wilson. The subject, treated under the following headings: The Light of Experience—Humanism and Industrial Citizenship—The Humanistic Course in General Outline—The Continuation School Library. 136 pp. 1s. 8d.

The first annual report of the British Electricity Commissioners appointed under the Electricity (supply) Act, 1919, is just out. It covers a period of fourteen months up to March 31, 1921. The report opens with a review of the development of the electricity supply industry up to the passing of the Act of 1919. It includes a map of England and Wales showing the approximate boundaries of thirteen electricity dis-

tricts which have so far been provisionally determined.

The meat industry is receiving a good deal of governmental attention. The Federal Trade Commission's investigation into the packing industry has begun to appear in print, and the Proceedings before the British Royal Commission on Importation of Store Cattle is just out. The latter commission sat from May to July of this year and its hearings are just out in a folio volume of over 600 pp.

Personnel Research Agencies, a guide to organized research in employment management, industrial relations training and working conditions, by J. David Thompson, has just been issued as Bulletin 299 of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. All special librarians are urged to make a careful study of this volume, which is full of suggestive information quite unlikely to be located elsewhere without a fatiguing search.

Classification of Correspondence, 148 pages, has just been issued by the Bureau of Indexes and Archives, U. S. Department of State. Students of classification and file experts will both be repaid by an examination of this volume.

Index of the Transactions of the American Foundrymen's Association, Chicago, 1921. iv, 191 pp., has recently been published by authority of the Board of Directors of the Association, Marquette Bldg., Chicago. It comprises a separate subject and author index to vols. 9-29 of the proceedings, and opens up a great field of technical information on which heretofore had lain buried.

Katherine Tappert, a Pratt Graduate and formerly librarian of the New York Evening Post, has accepted a position in the Pratt Institute Free Library in charge of the Reading Room.

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The Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York is renovating and increasing its room space in its building at 65 Liberty Street so that its Library may have larger and improved quarters. This Library is under the efficient direction of Miss Elsa Loeber.

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Teachers' College, 120th Street and Broadway, is to have a library costing \$3,000,000, it has been learned. The building will be in 120th St. between the main building of Teachers' College and Whittier Hall. The General Education Board has given \$1,000,000 and the trustees of the college a like amount toward the building.

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Darthula Lindberg has resigned an assistantship in the Library of the U. S. Weather Bureau to become Librarian of the Cleveland (O.) Museum of Natural History.

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Amy Putnam of the Library of the Quartermaster General's Office has accepted a position as assistant in the Library of the U. S. Weather Bureau.

Book Review

The American Committee on Electrolysis, Bion J. Arnold, of Chicago, chairman, in October, 1921, issued a second report. (204 pp.) The first, a preliminary report, was issued in 1916. The second report comprises such statements of fact and descriptions and discussions of methods of electrolysis testing and of electrolysis mitigation as the members of the Committee have to date agreed upon. In addition there is a survey of European practice and a chapter on electrolysis research with a carefully selected bibliography.

The American Committee on Electralysis is composed of three representatives from the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, the American Electric Railway Assn., American Rwy. Engrng. Assn., National Electric Light Assn., American Gas Assn., Natural Gas Assn. of America, American Telephone and Telegraph Co., American Water Works Assn., and the National Bureau of Standards.

To Mr. F. Van Zandt Lane, C. E., formerly Chief Transportation Engineer of the Packard Motor Car Company and more recently General Maintenance Manager of Hares Motors, in large part must go the credit for the first attempt to put motor transportation upon a scientific basis. For several years past in a series of lectures delivered at New York University, Mr. Lane has been developing the fundamental principles that govern successful motor truck operation, with special emphasis upon the economic aspects of the problem. The substance of these lectures has recently been re-formulated by the author and published in an interesting book entitled "Motor Truck Transportation: The Principles Governing Its Success" (New York: D. Van Nostrand, 1921.)

The "Special Libraries Directory," issued about three months ago and since widely commented upon by librarians and by the press, is the greatest single effort yet made by the Special Libraries Association. The Directory is the result of several years investigation by the Association through its Census Committee, William F. Jacob, Chairman, supplemented by local surveys in Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Washington. The book has an Introduction by Dorsey W. Hyde, Jr., who acted as Editor, and consists of 123 pages, including a geographical list of over 1,300 special libraries, an annotated section covering more than 400 special libraries, and a subject index. New York State leads with 360 special libraries, and is followed by the District of Columbia with 190, Pennsylvania with 130 and Massachusetts with 123 special libra-

ries. The subjects covered run from Government to Genealogy, from Education to Explosives, from Religion to Retail Trade, from Banking to Botany and from Finance to Foods.

Needless to say the Directory has all the faults of a first attempt. Each day brings us notice of libraries omitted, of mis-spelled names and addresses. It is hoped that all libraries will study the book as it stands and send in all possible corrections and additions so that ample material will be on hand for the improvement of the second edition.

Review notices of the Directory have already appeared in about twenty different publications. It is the hope of SPECIAL LIBRARIES that the Directory will be a means of spreading the gospel of special library service and that special libraries will aid in this work by sending in criticism and information for the continuing improvement of future editions.

Mr. Orville Merton Kile, B. Sc., formerly Assistant Washington Representative of The American Farm Bureau Federation, has performed a unique service to American agriculture by the publication of his interesting book on "The Farm Bureau Movement" (New York: Macmillan Co., 1921). In the early chapters Mr. Kile tells the story of earlier attempts at agricultural organization as illustrated by such bodies as the Grange, the Farmers' Alliance, etc. That section of the book dealing with the origin and spread of the Farm Bureau idea is of particular interest. The book, which unfortunately lacks an index, supplies in compact form a mass of information which is of prime importance to all students of modern agricultural problems.

The American Red Cross has recently made a valuable contribution to special library literature in the form of a "Handbook of Social Resources of the United States" by Genevieve P. Hendricks, Assistant to Emily W. Dinwiddie, Director of the Red Cross Social Resources Information Service, Washington, D. C. (Washington: The American Red Cross, 1921). The main body of the volume consists of very complete descriptions of the various national social agencies, arranged alphabetically by name. In the front of the book there is an excellent subject-index, prepared in large part by Harriet E. Dart, and a geographical index. The Handbook aims to include for each organization mention of its general program; its specific activities; names and work of committees and commissions; field work and lecture service; survey and investigational activities; etc.